A·LEAGUE

MACARTHURFC MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

MACARTHURFC V PERTH GLORY FC

FRIDAY 2 APRIL
KICK-OFF 6:05PM
CAMPBELLTOWN STADIUM

2020/21 A-LEAGUE LADDER

#		CLUB	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GA	PTS
1	—	Central Coast Mariners	14	8	2	4	23	16	7	26
2	▲	Adelaide United	13	8	1	4	24	21	3	25
3	▲	Melbourne City FC	12	8	0	4	26	13	13	24
4	▲	Macarthur FC	14	7	2	5	17	19	-2	23
5	▼	Western Sydney Wanderers FC	14	6	4	4	22	20	2	22
6	—	Sydney FC	13	5	4	4	16	13	3	19
7	▲	Perth Glory	12	5	2	5	24	25	-1	17
8	▼	Brisbane Roar FC	12	4	4	4	16	14	2	16
9	▼	Wellington Phoenix	14	4	3	7	21	21	0	15
10	▼	Western United FC	11	4	2	5	18	18	0	14
11	—	Newcastle Jets	14	3	2	9	12	21	-9	11
12	—	Melbourne Victory	13	2	2	9	13	31	-18	8

PLAYER PROFILE

MILISLAV POPOVIC

WHAT WAS IT LIKE TO MAKE YOUR A-LEAGUE DEBUT LAST MATCH?

It was a great feeling to finally make my debut. I was unlucky with a few set backs in the beginning of the season but to get some minutes for the first time in the A-League and the 3 points was aweome.

WHAT IS IT LIKE TO PLAY FOR AN INAUGURAL CLUB?

It's very special to be part of history and a new club for the region. Growing up in Liverpool, it's great to see a team where the local kids in the community can aspire to play for one day.

NAME: Milislav Popovic
AGE: 24
POSITION: Forward

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO RETURN BACK TO AUSTRALIA?

It's good to be back after 7 years in Europe. It was an amazing experience but to play back home in front of my family and friends, nothing else compares.

WHICH PLAYER DID YOU IDOLISE AS A KID?

I always watched Harry Kewell and Mark Viduka growing up. As a kid, I looked up to them and aspired to play for the Socceroos just like they did.

FAVOURITE MOVIE?

I like any Quentin Tarantino movies. Django would have to be my favourite. I recently watched Scar Face and I really enjoyed it. I think it would definitely be up there with my favourite movies.

MACARTHUR SQUARE - LEVEL 3 - NEAR THE FOOD COURT

MW14 MATCH REPORT: NIX BECOME RED RAGS FOR BULLS

Pitch perfect conditions greeted the players in Wollongong on Sunday afternoon, as both teams met for the first time since playing out a 1-all draw in Match Week 3 of the competition.

With both outfits coming off wins in their previous starts, the two teams were cautious of each other during the opening 45 minutes.

While the Bulls dominated the bulk of possession, the Nix worked hard in transition creating a chance early on, forcing keeper Adam Federici into a difficult diving save.

Both defences held firm during the opening half-hour of play, until Ivan Franjic found some space down the right side and produced a neat cross into the box for Denis Genreau, only for it to be hooked up on Tommy Oar boot and defused by the Wellington Defenders.

Mark Milligan lead the way with an experienced defensive display against Wellington on Sunday afternoon.

Resuming in the second-half, the Bulls flew out of the gates and looked a completely different team to the one in the first half, possibly down to the Nix "Wollongong Wolves" red inspired kit - with many commenting it was a red rag to a bull - or maybe the half-time address from coach Ante Milicic.

With almost immediate effect 30 seconds into the second stanza, Loic Puyo almost found the back of the net with a deflection off an Ivan Franjic rocket. As the match wore on, the Bulls showed more urgency and pressed the Nix defence high and hard, it seemed only a matter of time before pressure turned into goals.

At the 60 minute mark, another Franjic ball was whipped towards the box and dealt with by Tim Payne, who caressed the ball back to Phoenix keeper Oli Sail, however he could only parry the ball into Denis Genreau who rattled the Kiwi's net, in what turned to be the match winner.

They call football the beautiful game, but sometimes you need to win ugly to grow and move forward.

Macarthur FC Coach Ante Milicic said post-match:

"I'm very happy. To come here against a team full of confidence, get 3 points and a clean sheet - I'm delighted."

"I thought Susnjar, Jovanovic and Milligan defended very well today when they pressed us and put us under pressure."

"We got pinned back after we scored. We wanted to keep the ball and play more in their half but sometimes that's what happens."

"We've won two in a row now; we need to continue to focus on ourselves. As we get more consistency in our line up, I'm hoping we can show that on match day."

"We have another great opportunity to put another positive performance on Friday against Perth at home and go for three in a row." Milicic said.

With four home games in four weeks for the Bulls, fans can now purchase a Bulls Bundle for $100 for an adult and guarantee themselves a spot for each of the four matches in April.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY COACHING CLINICS ARE HERE!

Macarthur FC are proud to launch in partnership with Macarthur Football Association, the Macarthur FC Autumn School Holiday Clinic.

The clinic, open for girls and boys ages from 5 – 12 years-old, will be split across two venues – 7th-8th April 202 at Wayne Gardner Oval, Oran Park and 14th-15th April 2021 at Lynwood Park, St Helens Park.

Running from 9am to 1pm each day, the clinic is a fun and educational way for your child to increase their footballing knowledge and development, allowing them to enhance their skill level whilst in a fun environment.

Participants will have a great time, with our qualified coaches providing high quality sessions focusing on technique, game awareness and playing the Macarthur FC way.

The two-day clinic covers the core football skills though game based scenarios developed by our Macarthur FC technical coaching staff.

The two day packages cost $160 and include:

- Macarthur FC Training kit
- Macarthur FC Endorsed Coaches
- Macarthur FC Player Meet & Greet
- 20% discount at Macarthur FC Experience Store for Members only.

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BULLS PARTNER WITH RECLAIM THE GAME!

Macarthur FC is stepping up in its first season to promote community wellbeing by joining Reclaim the Game to address the normalisation of sports betting and raise awareness of gambling harm.

This partnership will support the club's community efforts to promote an active, healthy lifestyle to the Macarthur and South West region and provide a more family-friendly sporting experience in their home game at Campbelltown Sports Stadium.

Natalie Wright, Director of the Office of Responsible Gambling, said it's exciting to see other codes join the initiative.

"We now have four major agreements across three of the most popular codes after starting with cricket. That really speaks to clubs recognising their role in looking after their fans and their communities," Ms Wright said.

Aside from not accepting any sports betting sponsorships, the club has committed to educating their staff, players, and fans about the risks associated with gambling.

"Sport is a big part of our Australian culture, and it should be enjoyed without having to experience gambling advertising as part of a match," Ms Wright said.

Gino Marra, Chairman of Macarthur FC, said that as a new club, they wanted to show their support for the Macarthur region and their passionate fanbase.

"As a club, we want to ensure we are looking after the wellbeing of our members, fans, and the wider community. This partnership does just that." Mr Marra said.

"Our fans have got behind us in this first season, and we are excited to get behind them, too. The club, including our players, coaches, and staff, are passionate about raising awareness on this important topic."

The Office of Responsible Gambling is in discussions with other sporting codes and clubs and hopes to announce more sign-ups to Reclaim the Game throughout the year.

If you or someone you care about needs support or advice, please call Gambling Help NSW on 1800 858 858 for free and confidential help and support 24/7.

FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Credit: Samuel Green

Macarthur FC are aiming to claim three wins in a row for the first time in their short history when Perth Glory make the trip east to Campbelltown Stadium on Good Friday with designs of breaking into the A-League's top six.

While many A-League teams have been building club-record winning streaks or battling to escape miserable form slumps, the Bulls have gone about their business in a consistent fashion, racking up 23 points to sit fourth on the ladder in their inaugural season.

Ante Milicic's side have only strung together back-to-back wins on two occasions in their first 14 games as a professional club and they hosts the Western Australians with an eye on setting a club-record winning streak, following triumphs over Western United and Wellington Phoenix in the past fortnight.

Having been playing catch-up since the start of the campaign, Perth find themselves two points outside of the finals spots with a game in hand over most of the teams above them – and this clash in Sydney's south-west is Glory's opportunity to climb into those coveted top-six positions.

Richard Garcia's outfit are on a roll after collecting four points from their two games last week, a high-intensity 1-1 draw against Sydney FC and a narrow 2-1 win over the Newcastle Jets where Glory had to scrap for more than an hour with 10 players.

Garcia will be without the suspended Jonathan Aspropotamitis for this one as Perth search for their first victory in New South Wales in six attempts. However, Campbelltown Stadium has rarely been a happy hunting ground for the hosts, with the Bulls only winning two of their six matches on their own turf.

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THIS WEEKS PLAYING SQUAD

Macarthur FC Head Coach Ante Milicic has named an unchanged squad for tomorrow evenings clash with Perth Glory.

After back to back victories over Western United and Wellington Phoenix in consecutive weeks, the Bulls will be pushing for a club record three wins from three matches, when they take on Glory in a Good Friday Blockbuster.

Milicic addressed the media this morning and said:

"Perth have a lot of danger in the front third. They have recruited a lot of experience and to be fair, probably haven't had the results in recent weeks that their the football deserved."

"We've prepared well this week, and believe that if we can focus on ourselves, we are a good chance to pick up three points.

"Our combinations are starting to develop, and it's something I've had to be patient with. We've got a lot of experienced players out on the pitch and when it comes together we look decent. We are making some small steps in the right direction." Milicic said.

The Bulls begin a run of four matches in four weeks at Campbelltown and will be looking for a big turnout to begin the Easter break.

Macarthur FC's starting XI will be announced 60 minutes prior to kick-off tomorrow afternoon.

The Bulls celebrate their 2-1 victory over Western United last home match.

THIS WEEKS PLAYING SQUAD

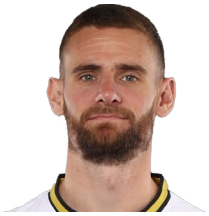
1. FEDERICI (GK)

3. GOLEC

4. BEÑAT

5. MILLIGAN (C)

6. JOVANOVIC



7. FRANJIC

8. GENREAU

9. POPOVIC

10. PUYO

11. OAR

12. MEREDITH

15. SUSNJAR

16. SUMAN (GK)

21. HOLLMAN

22. ROSE

23. SCOTT

27. DERBYSHIRE

29. MARTIS

31. LA. ROSE

33. SUSAETA

PERTH GLORY A-LEAGUE SQUAD

1	TANDO VELAPHI (GK)
2	JASON GERIA
4	SEBASTIAN LANGKAMP
6	OSAMA MALIK
8	KOSUKE OTA
9	BRUNO FORNAROLI
10	ANDY KEOGH
13	LUKE BODNAR
15	BRANDON WILSON
17	DIEGO CASTRO (C)
19	CALLUM TIMMINS
20	CARLO ARMIENTO
21	BRYCE BAFFORD
22	JOSH RAWLINS
23	DANE INGHAM
24	DANIEL STYNES
29	DARRYL LACHMAN
33	LIAM REDDY (GK)
38	CIARAN BRAMWELL
88	NEIL KILKENNY

APRIL MATCHES

MACARTHUR FC V BRISBANE ROAR FC

CAMPBELLTOWN STADIUM
FRI 9 APR | 7:05PM

ADELAIDE UNITED F.C. V MACARTHUR FC

COOPERS STADIUM
WED 14 APR | 7:35PM

MACARTHUR FC V NEWCASTLE JETS

CAMPBELLTOWN STADIUM
SUN 18 APR | 6:10PM

MACARTHUR FC V MELBOURNE CITY FC

CAMPBELLTOWN STADIUM
SAT 24 APR | 7:10PM

PERTH GLORY FC V MACARTHUR FC

HBF PARK
FRI 30 APR | 9:40PM

NEXT HOME MATCH

MACARTHUR FC

V

BRISBANE ROAR FC

FRIDAY 9 APRIL
7:05PM
TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW!

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